FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ALFONSIN 'MISQUOTED' ON FALKLANDS IN DELHI

PY282250 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2050 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Text] New Delhi, 28 Jan (DYN) -- President Raul Alfonsin was involved in the only incident that took place today at a press conference held by the six leaders who attended a summit on peace and disarmament here when he referred to his government's position regarding sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands. A reporter of the local newspaper HINDUSTAN TIMES, which many local observers believe is linked to British interests, asked Alfonsin about the prospects of negotiations with the United Kingdom and "what his government would do to recover the islands if negotiations are not accepted." Alfonsin said that Argentina had raised at the United Nations the need to hold negotiations and that most countries supported its position. He added: "Therefore, we hope that Great Britain will cooperate as a member of the United Nations and obey the UN resolution."

"In any case, and responding to the second part of your question," Alfonsin said, "the Argentine Government, at least under my presidency, will not (repeat, not) attempt to recapture the islands by force." In making the simultaneous translation into English the interpreter dropped the negative "not." Counselor Roberto Garcia Moritan, who was acting as President Alfonsin's translator, took the microphone and clarified Alfonsin's remarks in English. Apparently one of the reporters did not hear or did not take into account this clarification and hastily transmitted the erroneous report. This can be inferred from the fact that a few hours later several calls from London were received at the Ashok Hotel, where the Argentine journalists are staying, asking for confirmation or clarification of the remarks attributed to Alfonsin.

PRESIDENT TO MEET BRITAIN'S KINNOCK IN ATHENS

PY290213 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] It is well known that Argentina and the United Kingdom have not had diplomatic relations since the Malvinas war in 1982. This is why the following information is important: Neil Kinnock, Labor Party and opposition leader, will meet with President Alfonsin in Athens on 31 January, according to a report from London issued tonight. This is the first time that President Alfonsin will hold a meeting with a British political leader.

ALFONSIN, REAGAN TO MEET 19 MARCH IN U.S.

PY282029 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1901 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 28 Jan (TELAM) -- U.S. President Ronald Reagan has invited President Raul Alfonsin to make a state visit to the United States and President Alfonsin has accepted the invitation. Presidents Reagan and Alfonsin will meet at the White House on 19 March.

GOVERNMENT ISSUES SEVEN NEW EXPORT DECREES

PY261220 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2219 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 25 Jan (TELAM) -- The government today issued seven decrees spelling out the provisions of Export Law 23101. The purpose of these decrees is to turn the export sector into the driving force of the Argentine economy and to assist in the recovery of foreign markets.

The decrees were signed by Vice President Victor Martinez, who is acting head of the executive branch, during a ceremony held at Government House that was attended by Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun, who endorsed the decrees, and members of the Foreign Trade Advisory Council (CACE). During the ceremony, Martinez said that the government attaches great importance to the new measures and pointed out that one of the national policy objectives is to increase exports.

The new regulations provide for a 0.50 tax on the import of consumption goods. This tax will be earmarked to the National Export Promotion Fund, which in turn will grant loans and aid to small and medium-size enterprises and to foreign trade chambers.

Another decree grants institutional recognition to export companies, regarding them as institutions with greater possibilities of competing and of entering markets. It also providwes for giving support in opening offices abroad.

Institutional recognition is also granted to corporations engaged in exporting consumption goods and services and to export cooperatives that comply with the provisions of Laws 18550 and 20337.

Moreover, a drawback system is established to reimburse the exporters the import tax and the tax paid to finance the keeping of statistics when the import entails raw material, which in turn is destined for export goods, packaging, and containers.

Another decree establishes 10-percent deductions on the FOB value of the export goods included on the list of the Custom Cooperation Council [Consejo de Cooperacion Aduanera] and provides for the exemption of duty stamps on export contracts.

The new decrees also establish a compensated exchange system, especially for regional products.

ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION BUDGET INCREASED

PY281750 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 28 Jan 85 p 5

[Text] (NA) -- Atomic Energy Commission (CNEA) President Alberto Constantini stated yesterday that CNEA's 1985 budget was "almost 30 percent higher" than last year's. In an interview with the mass circulation daily CLARIN, he also said that the original cost estimate of the Atucha II nuclear plant was 1.5 billion (thousand million) dollars, but its final cost would be between 2.5 and three billion.

In the course of the interview there were also complaints about the government withholding funds and doubts were voiced as to whether the plant could come on stream by 1989 as planned. Constantini also stated that Argentina had not signed nuclear nonproliferation treaties "because it wished to maintain its sovereign rights, considering (the treaties) discriminatory."

IGLESIAS' RESIDENCE BOMBED; PERONISTS MEET

PY262141 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 26 Jan 85 pp 1, 9

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- Controversial Buenos Aires Province Peronist boss Herminio Iglesias was the latest victim of political violence in Argentina when a bomb exploded in front of his Avellaneda residence at 2 am yesterday. Meanwhile, non-violent but feverish activity continued to dominate the Peronist scene in efforts to avert explosive situations in party provincial and national politics.

The early morning blast in the metropolitan suburb seriously damaged the garage door and shattered windows in Iglesias' home, but neither he, his wife, three sons, nor other friends present were injured. Iglesias said a simple bomb would not affect his political activities and attributed it to "anti-national forces who want to give up our sovereignty and favour International Monetary Fund plans to make our people suffer." The provincial party strongman flatly denied that the attack could have come from within his party, saying that "Peronists don't have any bombs." He also insisted that he still headed the provincial Justicialist Council, thus ignoring Tuesday's nine-man decision to replace him, saying that only six voted against him because "three are no longer members," having been removed by the provincial disciplinary tribunal.

Meanwhile in Mar del Plata, Justicialist authorities elected at the Odeon Theatre congress in December began three-day closed-door talks yesterday to try to keep the party from dividing in half. The official summit, headed by metal workers union leader Lorenzo Miguel and Santa Fe Governor Jose Maria Vernet, were awaiting Herminio Iglesias' presence today. But dissident spokesman Senator Oraldo Britos (San Luis) backed away from overtures to initiate talks between the two sectors without any previous conditions. Differences can only be resolved if all delegates come to Rio Hondo and deal with the party rift within a context of complete democracy, his allies maintained. Both sides are calling for amending the party statutory by-laws and permitting direct membership voting.

Another Peronist assembly will get under way in Mar del Plata today when Buenos Aires Peronists opposed to Herminio Iglesias will ratify their support for the new provincial council leadership headed by 6th District representative Raul Penaloza. The meeting is meant to be a show of political strength and to map out strategy for district delegates who will attend the rebel congress in Rio Hondo. Former Economy Minister Antonio Cafiero, La Rioja Governor Carlos Menem, CGT Secretary-General Jorge Triaca, and Lomas de Zamora Mayor Eduardo Duhalde, among others, will attend.

Mar del Plata will be host to yet another Peronist conclave this weekend when Buenos Aires Peronist Youth loyal to Juan Carlos Dante Gullo will meet to consider their own internal crisis. In Cordoba, at the same time, Unified Peronist Youth (JPU) and the regional JP linked to the political position of the dissolved Montoneros terrorist organization will hold their own national encounter. JPU leaders Patricia Bullrich and Pablo Unamuno, meanwhile, rejected earlier a prison communique from jailed ex-Montonero leader Mario Firmenich.

Regarding support for the rebel congress in Rio Hondo, Britos assured that as of Thursday afternoon 392 delegates had certified their attendance. 50 out of 67 delegates from 1st party president Vernet's Province of Santa Fe confirmed their attendance, while only 80 of the 231 delegates in Buenos Aires (Iglesias stronghold) have said they would take part. All of the delegates from Catamarca (home of leftwing Peronist leader Senator Vicente Saadi), Corrientes, La Rioja, Mendoza, Neuquen, and Santiago del Estero (the province of congress host Carlos Juarez) are going to the dissident assembly.

Support for Iglesias by the national (Odeon) council was expressed yesterday by deputy Luis Santos Casale, who read a statement condemning the attack on Iglesias. National council attorney Pablo Allende said the bomb was the work of "communism, the left," as he hailed Iglesias as "the greatest bastion the country and the entire world has against international communism."

PLANNING MINISTER VIEWS ECONOMY, DEFICIT

PY251207 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2102 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] La Paz, 24 Jan (EFE) -- Bolivian Planning and Coordination Minister Freddy Justiniano said today that unless an economic adjustment plan is implemented, in 1985 Bolivia will have a fiscal deficit of 60 percent of the gross domestic product (GDP), in view of the inflation accumulated in 1984, which according to official sources stands at 2,177 percent. This fiscal deficit represents some $2 billion, an unprecedented amount in Bolivian history since prior fiscal deficits have been between 26 and 28 percent of the GDP, the minister told journalists last night.

He said that it would be necessary to allocate all income from exports for the next 8 years to pay off the foreign debt; that per capita income has declined 30 percent over the past 4 years; and that the deficit of the Mining Corporation of Bolivia, the largest corporation in the country, is approximately $460 million (more than half the current income for exports). Upon disclosing this information to the Bolivian media in an effort to describe the extremely critical economic situation, the minister termed the situation dramatic. This is most certainly a warning that new economic measures are soon to come, although Justiniano, head of the economic team, indicated that these measures will be neither sudden nor traumatic, although they will be all-encompassing.

One of the best barometers of impending changes, the black market, today showed the U.S. dollar exchange rate shooting up to 86,000 pesos, while the official exchange rate established by the government in November is still 9,000 pesos per dollar.

While Bolivian exports amounted to $1 billion in 1980, in 1984 they failed to reach $700 million, according to Freddy Justiniano. Finance Under Secretary Walter Gomez revealed this week that the country's reserves barely total $6 million.

As for the foreign debt that Bolivia decided to stop paying in June of last year, the minister quoted the figure of $4.1 billion. Although this figure is not too high in absolute terms, it is extremely high if one takes into account the current economic situation and the fact that it must be prorated among a population of only slightly more than 5 million. According to the Planning Ministry (a portfolio that has had five ministers in 27 months of consitutional rule), the decision against renegotiating the foreign debt has virtually paralyzed Bolivia's productive activities. The powerful Bolivian Labor Federation (COB) has already warned that it will oppose any economic package that follows the guidelines of the IMF. If the government tries to reduce the fiscal deficit, as Justiniano has promised, because otherwise the situation will become unmanageable very soon, the COB may unleash an overall labor struggle, which entails the risk of destabilizing the country and paving the way for the always feared coup d'etat that would end the democratic process.

FACTORY WORKERS, OTHERS CONTINUE STRIKES

PY281907 [Editorial Report] La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish in its regular newscast at 1700 GMT on 28 January carries several reports on the strike situation in Bolivia. Regarding the bank conflict, it is reported that during a meeting held this morning, the private Banks Association [Asoban] decided to ask the government for "total guarantees" so it can resume normal banking activities. On the other hand, the bank employees have declared that they are willing to resume work; but by Asoban decision, the banks remain closed.

A leader of the Trade Union Federation of Bolivian Mineworkers [FSTMB] has reported that "the Mining Corporation of Bolivia [Comibol] is on the verge of total paralysis because of the lack of material, spare parts, and other elements." The government is said to show total indifference to the problems of the nationalized mining industry. "Company stores are completely empty, which greatly worries housewives." There is also a shortage of medicine at Comibol hospitals. "The mineworkers demand a solution from the government in the interest of the workers of the sector," the FSTMB leader said.

"The general, indefinite strike of the factory workers continues because the problem regarding the arbitration decision has still not been solved." The workers will submit the conflict to the general national meeting of the COB,which will begin on 30 January. For this meeting, the COB has called for the participation of "all popular, democratic, and revolutionary forces, as well as patriotic military men, to save the country at this difficult time."

Cadena Panamericana reports in conclusion that "the workers of the National Telecommunications Enterprise have gone on an indefinite strike. The strike is in force throughout the country as of 1300 today." The workers demand that the government order the purchase of teletype machines for the enterprise to save it from bankruptcy.

COB DENIES ADN ACCUSATION OF ENCOURAGING COUP

PY281315 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Excerpts] The La Paz morning papers have published a paid advertisement by Nationalist Democratic Action [ADN] making an accusation which has caused tension among the public. The advertisement appeared in the dailies on Sunday morning and was entitled "Strategy To Curtail Democracy." The ad says that the People's Coordination Commission is being revived as the political action branch of the COB. The Trotskiyist labor movement and the extremist parties have banded together in that commission. By its own admission, the commission rejects the electoral process, replacing it with a violent plan for taking power. In the ad, ADN accuses the present commander in chief of the Armed Forces of being involved in the coup d'etat which is being encouraged by the COB. ADN leader Guillermo Fortun Suarez said:

[Begin recording] In the ad we specifically name General Sejas Tordoya, commander in chief of the Armed Forces. [end recording]

Radio Panamericana, which is impartial and objective, now presents the statements made by COB Secretary General Walter Delgadillo regarding the open accusation made by the ADN that the COB harbors coup plans. When Walter Delgadillo learned about the ADN paid advertisement, he stated to Radio Panamericana:

[Begin recording] The ever-present coupists, those who bring about and justify dictatorships, have suddenly become great democrats. If there is a sector of society that has always defended democracy, it is the labor class through the COB. The people who always knock at the barracks doors should not try to track us any lessons about democracy. [end recording]

COB Secretary General Walter Delgadillo said that the COB has no coup plans. On the contrary, in accordance with the Cochabamba National Congress, it will defend the freedoms introduced by the current democratic process. Walter Delgadillo stated that the position of the COB is opposed to coups, regardless of who may promote them.

MINISTER EXPECTS TERRORISM TO INCREASE

PY290206 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 2200 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Report from Government House by reporter Osvaldo Yanez]

[Excerpt] The government expects leftist terrorist activities to increase in March, Minister Secretary General of Government Francisco Javier Cuadra said during a press conference at the La Moneda Palace upon resuming his activities after his vacation. Cuadra said that according to foreign reports, coming from the GDR, we have reasons to believe that extreme leftists will create extremely tense situations in March, which will force the authorities to take further drastic measures. Cuadra said that although public opinon is aware of these reports, the objective of the leftists will not be attained because the people are ready for them and have adopted the corresponding preventive measures.

Regarding the behavior of the different political sectors, Minister Cuadra said that one of the government's objectives in imposing the state of siege was to allow opposition sectors to think about the results of their strategy. The minister said that the government strategy is showing results in some cases because there are moderate sectors which are undertaking self-criticism, according to reports. Those political sectors are convincing themselves that the tactics and practices of protests, or social mobilizations which they held throughout 1983 and 1984, are not beneficial for the country and much less for their own objectives, Cuadra stated.

On another subject, he recalled that the 3-month banishment to Pisagua for those classified as common criminals is up. Minister Cuadra said that measures in this respect are being studied. The total number of persons banished to Pisagua is 428, according to the latest official reports. Cuadra said that he could not give any information about this because the matter is currently being studied, but the government will report on the measures to be adopted at the proper time.

Comments on U.S. Congressmen's Visit

PY290056 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Text] The opinion of U.S. congressmen on the nation's political situation is absolutely irrelevant, because the problems in Chile have to be solved by Chileans, said the Minister Secretary General of Government Francisco Javier Cuadra in answer to a question on the visit recently paid to the country by a group of U.S. congressmen. Minister Cuadra also said that the situation of the criminals who have been banished to Pisagua is being studied, adding that for the time being the restrictions that have been imposed on the press will not be lifted.

CNT SCHEDULES NATIONAL PROTEST FOR 27 MARCH

PY231522 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Arturo Martinez, secretary general of Chile's National Workers Command [CNT] and president of the National Graphic Arts Confederation, has reported that, in principle, the CNT has scheduled the first national protest of the year for 27 March. However, he added, the leaders of the workers federations and confederations that are members of the CNT will meet on 29 January to decide the definite date and manner in which the protest against the prevailing economic and political situation will be staged.

Martinez said that the CNT leaders are holding talks with important political and social organizations with the aim of organizing a joint protest demonstration that will show the dissatisfaction of large sectors of the Chilean population with the military regime.

He also said that several sectors had expressed their desire to resume the social mobilization against the government in March. However, he has not talked with the commerce and transportation sectors because they are negotiating with the regime, which is unacceptable to the CNT.

Martinez said that our greatest efforts will be concentrated on the sectors that most actively participated in last year's protests: the slum dwellers, students, labor unions, and some professional colleges.

In conclusion, he said that on 25 February the CNT will hold several commemorative acts marking the anniversary of the death of Tucapel Gimenez [a slain union leader] in several labor quarters and factories, actually transforming the acts into a day of homage for the defense of life.

On another subject, joint military, Carabineros, and National Intelligence Center forces at noon today conducted a repressive operation in the populous San Miguel slum of Santiago. They also blocked access roads to the Pilar and La Legua slums.

According to reports by some of the slum dwellers, these operations were similar to the massive raids conducted on the La Victoria, La Lengua, and some other slums where a large number of military and police forces surrounded the slums and blocked access roads, stopped passersby and buses to request identification documents, and detained suspects.

At the time this report was written, it was still not known how many people were detained or the reasons the authorities conducted this military deployment.

MDP URGES RENEWED STRUGGLE FOR DEMOCRACY

AU211135 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 17 Jan 85 p 6

[Text] Buenos Aires (CTK) -- The People's Democratic Movement (MDP), a coalition of Chilean Communists, socialists, and other left-wing forces, has called upon the Chilean people to increasingly activate the struggle against the hated Pinochet dictatorship. Jose Sanfuentes, MDP secretary general, declared from the underground that this year can become decisive in the fight for democracy in Chile. However, he also stressed that for this purpose it is necessary to unite the efforts of all adversaries of the fascist regime.

The declaration, which was secretly disseminated in Chile and which also penetrated across the country's borders, states that TODAY CHILE IS ONE LARGE CONCENTRATION CAMP. PARTICULARLY AFTER LAST YEAR'S RENEWAL OF THE STATE OF SEIGE, THE REGIME INTRODUCED STRICT PRESS CENSORSHIP, BANNED ALL MEETINGS AND ASSEMBLIES, AND HAS BEEN USING TERROR AND VIOLENCE AGAINST PATRIOTS. [capitalized passage published in boldface] But the Chilean people are firmly resolved to conduct to the very end the fight for freedom and democracy in their country. This is also attested to by the great echo in Chile by the appeal to carry out yet another general strike this April, J. Sanfuentes stated.

PRESIDENT'S VISIT OPPOSED BY FRG SOCIAL DEMOCRATS

PY281750 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2147 GMT 26 Jan 85

[Text] Bonn, 26 Jan (EFE) -- The FRG Social Democratic Party [SPD] is increasing its campaign aimed at preventing the official visit which Paraguayan President Alfredo Stroessner is scheduled to make in July and which has already been confirmed by the Christian Democratic government.

After the Bundestag interpellation held on 24 January, at the request of the SPD, for the FRG Government to explain the reason for inviting the Paraguayan president to visit the country, Karsten Voigt of Stuttgart, SPD expert in the Bundestag, requested "Helmut Kohl's government not to receive Stroessner." Voigt stated that "the dictator, who received and protected many Nazi criminals, should not be invited to the FRG when the 40th anniversary of the surrender is marked." Voigt pointed out that Stroessner's visit at this moment will be "detrimental to the democratic tendencies in Latin America."

The SPD politician maintained that the visit of the South American president could "lead one to believe that the FRG considers a dictator as an element of stability and that it wants to improve his image through the visit." Voigt also charged the FRG with wanting to receive Stroessner and of "refusing to invite Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega to visit the FRG," when the invitation to the latter "is necessary to find a peaceful solution to Latin American problems."

LIBERAL PARTY CONVENTION MAKES RECOMMENDATIONS

PY282248 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 28 Jan 85 p 12

[Text] The Radical Liberal Party [PLR] convention yesterday made a series of political, social, and economic recommendations to the new PLR party executive board aimed at improving the process the country is undergoing. The following are some of the recommendations:

"The 'freedom restriction laws' that oppress the Paraguayan people should be abolished; the permanent state of siege should be lifted; a broad amnesty law aimed at ending political persecutions should be approved; political prisoners should be granted unrestricted freedom; press freedom should be effectively exercised; and the proper measures to allow the various media to be accessible to the people without discrimination or the burden of monopolies should be adopted."

The PLR also recommends that the party executive board not allow the country's wealth to become the patrimony of any person or group of persons, or allow the ruling class to enjoy privileges in the distribution of the country's wealth to the detriment of the majority of the people; taxes should be fair and equitable, without overlooking the contributor's capacity or depriving the productive sectors of important capital; workers should receive a fair return for the results of their labor; laws must be approved to guarantee effective social democracy, and independent labor unions free of official coercion with fairly elected union leaders should be permitted.

Regarding domestic affairs, it is recommended to insist on holding dialogues to unite the party completely as well as to talk with the different sectors to achieve national unity, which is the best method to reconcile the Paraguayan family. It is also recommended to persist in strengthening the social and political process.

LABASTIDA SUPPORTS STABILITY OF OIL MARKET

FL281231 Mexco City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Jan 85

[Text] Geneva, Switzerland, 26 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Energy, Mines, and Parastate Industry (SEMIP) Secretary Francisco Labastida Ochoa has reaffirmed Mexico's support for the stability of the international oil market because reduction of the price of oil would upset the world economy. In separate interviews with Norway's Oil Minister Kaare Kristiansen and Great Britain's Secretary of State for Energy Peter Walker, Labastida Ochoa examined the conditions of the international oil market as well as its instability, to the detriment of the producers.

The SEMIP chief, who heads the Mexican delegation together with Mexico's Under Secretary for Economic Affairs of the Foreign Secretariat Jorge Educardo Navarrete, noted that abrupt changes, which apparently benefit just a few, could in the long term even affect the economy of those countries obtaining immediate advantages.

The interviews with his counterparts took place in Copenhagen and London. Both meetings lasted more than 4 hours, and during them the participants exchanged views on events in the international oil market.

It was announced that the Mexican delegation will hold talks with the oil ministers of Saudi Arabia, Ahmad Zaki Yamani; of Kuwait, 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Adhbi al-Sabah; of Algeria, Belkacem Nabi; of Indonesia, Subroto; and of Venezuela, Arturo Hernandez Grisanti.

Next Monday Labastida will attend the opening session of the extraordianry meeting of OPEC as an observer.

COSTA RICA PAYS $45 MILLION OF PETROLEUM BILL

FL251618 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1750 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Mexico City, 24 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Costa Rica will pay Mexico $45 million of its petroleum bill and hopes to renew agreements with PEMEX, Costa Rican Ambassador to Mexico Angel Edmundo Solano Calderon said here today.

The Costa Rican foreign minister said the Central Bank had received that amount to immediately pay Mexico, and that therefore the shipment of crude to Costa Rica can be reinstated, as well as the drilling of oil wells by PEMEX in that country. He said PEMEX began drilling two wells, 6,000 and 4,000 meters deep, as it continued with explorations in Costa Rica.

PRESIDENT VISITS YUGOSLAVIA; COMMUNIQUE ISSUED

For Belgrade TANJUG and Mexico City NOTIMEX coverage of the 24-26 January visit to Yugoslavia by President Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado, including his talks with officials and the communique issued at the end of his visit, see the Yugoslavia section of the 25 January Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

PRESIDENT SPEAKS AT NEW DELHI DISARMAMENT SUMMIT

For reportage on President Miguel de la Madrid's visit to India to attend the six-nation disarmament conference, as well as a report on his speech to the conference, please see the 28 January South Asia DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

PRT CRITICIZES GOVERNMENT, TIES WITH U.S.

PA282005 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 26 Jan 85 p 9 A

[Statement issued by the Revolutionary Party of the Workers [PRT]; date not given]

[Text] In the past few weeks, the Central American subregional situation has undergone very rapid changes which bring it closer to an imminent war, which obviously will be orchestrated by the United States of America. As all Latin American patriots know, such warlike efforts have the cruel but unattainable intention of eliminating the worldwide and social liberation movements supported by the heroic Latin American peoples, who have long been exploited by imperialism through the local oligarchies. The immediate plans drafted in Washington seek to undo, by a forcible intervention, the glorious Sandinist people's revolution, and then to do something similar in El Salvador. Such intentions have not been well concealed. Can anyone deny that Somozists, called contras, are openly financed by Reagan to destabilize, before the eyes of the world, a state that has a full right to self-determination? Isn't it clear to people that the United States is militarizing the region? Honduras is already a large military enclave created by the United States, the oligarchy, and a bribed military caste. The severe economic difficulties faced by the Central American countries, which are partly the responsibility of imperialist economic policy, are at the same time used by Ronald Reagan to subject the governments until they become true puppets that respond to his orders unconditionally. This explains the behavior of Luis Alberto Monge, the Costa Rican president, who recently submitted himself to Reagan's interest in eliminating the Contadora forum and allowing the discredited "ministry of colonies," the OAS, to support an intervention and isolate the peoples who are trying to liberate themselves. It is incredible that a peaceful people like the Costa Ricans have been involved in such an adventure. The Costa Rican rural police, like the young Belizean Army, are being trained for the military encirclement that the Pentagon is building from the Guatemalan border with Mexico to the banks of the Panama Canal, where the "Minuteman-1" exercises that are cynically called "Freedom Torch." Our party, the PRT, denounces the capitulating nature of the anemic and illegitimate government of Nicolas Ardito Barletta, as well as the complicity of the so-called Defense Forces which agreed, for a few dollars, to violate the sovereignty of our land, the land of Ascanio Arosemena and the other martyrs who were killed by that same Army that yesterday's demagogues are now conspiring with. Although they deny it, the leaders of the current regime know very well that they are bogged down because of their economic and fiscal crisis, as well as because of the burdensome commitments that stemmed from the Torrijos-Carter treaties with a view to the year 2000. All this has subjected them to great pressures which have now taken the form of economic blackmail. Do they think that the people believed that about the $30 million (unusual) donation from the Agency for International Development to Nicky? As a result of the increasingly radical, rightist turn of its foreign policy, and as a result of its domestic policy, the national government is becoming aligned with the U.S. Government, exposing the nation to future war reprisals, especially regarding a canal which everyone knows is indefensible. The most recent actions of this regime are in irreconcilable contradiction with the role it once played within the Contadora Group. For this reason, we reiterate our criticism of the opportunism and adventurism of the government leadership. We urge all democratic, progressive, nationalist, and revolutionary forces to struggle together to strengthen the Contadora Group, while remaining alert to prevent imperialism from backing the interference of organizations or individuals which agree, deep down, with its schemes. We also demand that the government of Nicolas Ardito Barletta and the command of the Defense Forces suspend immediately the joint exercises called "Minuteman" being held in Azuero.

[Signed] PRT

COSTA RICA

MEETING WITH NICARAGUA ON CONFLICT SOUGHT

PA280034 Paris AFP in Spanish 2201 GMT 27 Jan 85

[Excerpts] San Jose, 27 Jan (AFP) -- The Costa Rican Government today asked the Contadora Group to arrange a meeting between Costa Rica and Nicaragua to find a solution to the dispute over the case of a Nicaraguan refugee.

Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez confirmed that he had discussed the issue with Mexican Under Secretary of Foreign Affairs Ricardo Valero, to whom he expressed the Costa Rican Government's willingness to participate in any meeting to resolve the dispute.

Last Friday the Contadora Group asked the Costa Rican and Nicaraguan foreign ministers to find a solution, to which Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge replied that "bilateral negotiations have been exhausted" as far as this incident is concerned.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Gutierrez said that in spite of this notification from the Contadora Group, he knows that the group has been working on the Jose Manuel Urbina case since it was asked to do so on 18 January 1985.

Gutierrez is hopeful that in the next few days an agreement can be reached with Nicaragua, which accuses Urbina of being an Army deserter because he refused to fulfill compulsory military duty and therefore says that he has no right to political asylum.

MOELLEMANN ANNOUNCES INCREASE IN FRG AID

PA282153 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 22 Jan 85 p 4

[Text] The FRG will grant more bilateral aid to Costa Rica, in addition to the percentage already committed as an EEC member.

FRG Minister of State in the Foreign Ministry Juergen Moellemann made this announcement during a meeting with the president of the Republic yesterday. He arrived in Costa Rica on Sunday and will leave for Managua, Nicaragua, today on the second leg of his Central American tour.

The West German diplomat met for about 1 hour with the Costa Rican leader yesterday in Pozos de Santa Ana. It was reported that "West Germany gave assurances that it will grant additional aid to the country for development programs."

Monge and Moellemann analyzed the last meeting of ministers in San Jose on 28 and 29 September 1984 in which the EEC agreed to grant aid totaling $500 million over a period of 5 years to the five Central American countries, preferably for regional programs.

Meollemann will hold a press conference today at 1600 in the Juan Santamaria Airport's Diplomatic Room before departing for Managua.

Moellemann met at noon with Foreign Minister Carlos J. Gutierrez and Deputy Foreign Minister Jorge Urbina.

PVP CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM ISSUES RESOLUTION

PA281900 San Jose LIBERTAD REVOLUCIONARIA in Spanish 18-24 Jan 85 p 4

[Text] The Central Committee of the Popular Vanguard Party [PVP] held its third plenary session after its 15th Congress on 12 and 13 January 1985. The plenum, expanded to include its alternate members, heard and approved the report on the political situation presented by Companero Humberto Vargas Carbonell, the party's secretary general. The plenum agreed to publish, by means of this resolution, some of the principal issues discussed and approved. They are as follows:

Concerning the Economic Crisis

The government's economic policy has not resulted in the much touted stability. The social peace it boasts of is also a lie, as the banana plantation workers who saw two of their striking companeros killed and others injured, imprisoned, and tortured can testify. Nor can one forget that in the various tribunals there are about 2,000 trials pending against doctors, teachers, public employees, and electric company and banana plantation workers. Nor can anyone forget the constant violent eviction of peasants, as was the case in a large estate located in Las Alturas de Coton, where Antonio Prendas was brutally murdered.

One cannot talk about social peace when the repressive organizations have been raiding union offices and workers' homes, and a climate of intimidation is created by the government, the management sector, and the communications media to prevent the development of the people's struggle.

The measures adopted to deal with the crisis are leading to increased submission to imperialism, particularly to the dictates of the major instruments of neocolonialism, such as the IMF, the World Bank, and AID.

At most, the government's economic policy has only managed to delay some of the effects of the crisis and to intensify them.

Our people are subject to a process of decline in their standard of living: Their real salary is declining; the cost of living is rising; services are deteriorating, especially in the health area, as these services pass on to the private sector; the educational services are declining in both quality and quantity; higher education lacks financing; and over 300,000 people live in slum areas in the metropolitan area of San Jose alone.

To confront this situation, it is imperative that the people, through their mass organizations, join in the fight for their rights and for improvement in their standard of living. We urge the people to wage the struggle boldly, to push through the ideas calling for a popular, democratic, and anti-imperialistic solution to the crisis. It is urgent to develop an intense policy of popular unity aimed at confronting the measures imposed by both imperialism and our oligarchy, which seek to solve the crisis at the expense of the quick impoverishment of the popular masses. Meanwhile, large sectors of our ruling class grow richer at their expense, through high levels of corruption and price gouging.

Our PVP, which for 54 years has remained at the forefront of our people's fight for their rights, should place itself at the head of the masses in order to confront the serious problems we are suffering now more than ever.

The government's and our oligarchy's submissiveness to the dictates of imperialism is shown by, among other things, the restrictions on democratic freedoms, the increasing use of repressive police tactics against workers, the evident militarization of public forces, and the complacency and weakness exhibited before companies such as the transnational United Brands. This monopoly dismantles its facilities and abandons valuable banana plantations in open violation of contracts. The government does not adopt efficacious measures to claim what belongs to us; it allows the company to ruin the property that it should have turned over to the country in a few years; and it does not even dare expropriate the land that the company has exploited for such a long time.

The people's unity in view of the imperialist and oligarchic handling of the crisis must be our watchwords at this point.

The Struggle for Peace and Solidarity in Central America

The expanded plenum analyzed the brutal anticommunist, chauvinistic, and counterrevolutionary campaign waged by our oligarchy in close collaboration with imperialism.

Judging from the ear-splitting propaganda and provocations on the part of the communications media, the ranking authorities, the management sector, the small-time politicians of various parties, and the fascist organizations at the service of the interests of Reagan's government, the goal is to create a war hysteria in this country. The most narrow-minded bourgeois nationalism and hatred of the fraternal people of Nicaragua is encouraged. It is evident that they are trying to create the conditions for a war of aggression intended to crush the Sandinist revolution. It is also clear that the attack on that revolution is also intended to strike at the people's movement that is struggling for democracy, well-being, and justice for our people. The Costa Rican Government's Central American policy is an important part of imperialism's aggressive policy in the region.

The party is decisively confronting the campaign of hatred against Nicaragua. We are raising the banners of peace and international solidarity and we urge all of the democratic forces to launch a great campaign marked by solidarity and support for the Sandinist revolution and the Salvadoran people's brave revolutionaries. Let us all reinforce our solidarity with the patriots of Honduras, who are struggling to liberate their homeland from Yankee occupation, and with the heroic people of Guatemala, who are using various forms of mass struggle, including the armed struggle, to liberate their people from dictatorship and imperialism.

The current government's so-called neutrality policy created certain expectations when it was first proclaimed slightly over a year ago. However, in practice it has turned out to be a veritable farce. We have denounced and will continue to denounce the hypocritical handling of the neutrality proclamation. Our party has not fallen and will not fall into the opportunistic position of yielding to the government concerning this matter, thus contributing to the people's belief in a neutrality that exists only on paper.

It would have been very important if the good intentions contained in the proclamation could have been fulfilled. But this has not been so. The government tolerates the activities of the mercenaries who attack Nicaragua through our border; provocative actions are undertaken, which gravely endanger the relations between our two countries; verbal attacks are intensified; and measures are adopted to quickly militarize our country. None of this is in accord with a neutrality policy.

The need to check the hand of the aggressors is urgent. The danger of a regional war is real. The mercenary aggression against Nicaragua must be fought by all means within our reach. Let us check those who propagandize war. It is possible to unite all honest, democratic, and peace-loving Costa Ricans around these objectives.

Concerning the Electoral Struggle

The plenum urges the party to participate in the electoral campaign with the utmost enthusiasm. Our political intentions during the electoral campaign are the following:

A) To make known a program that opens prospects for the people's power and denounces the regime's flaws, to elect deputies and municipal officials, and to wage a major struggle to obtain as many votes as possible for the presidential candidate.

B) To advance toward achieving the broadest possible unity of the people's forces.

C) To increase our ranks and reinforce the party's and youth's influence.

D) To give political training to the cadres, especially the young ones.

The plenum once again ratifies the decision to work for the unity of the democratic and revolutionary people's forces without exclusions. Now more than ever, in the face of the problems posed by the crisis and the serious threats to peace, it is necessary to unite the best children from among our people in the struggle for the sacred interests of the workers and the homeland.

We must turn the electoral campaign into a great mass effort that combines the characteristic objects of an electoral struggle with work for democracy, respect for human rights and the people's well-being, and a struggle for peace and against imperialist intervention.

Thus far, the two bourgeois parties are developing an electoral political campaign in which they have yet to tackle the great problems that affect our people. There are no substantial differences between these two parties. The National Liberation Party [PLN] has gradually abandoned the positions of bourgeois reformism and with each passing day it increasingly adopts the neoliberal positions supported by the Social Christian Unity Party [PUSC]. Both are using the campaign to win the praise of the Reagan government by constantly attacking the Nicaraguan revolution.

Within those two parties, there are democratic and progressive forces and large groups of workers who are confused by the demagogic propaganda. The success of the electoral campaign and the revolutionary process' development depends on the capability of our party and its allies to attract these sectors and to win them over to our position. However, we believe that in order to achieve that objective it is necessary to continuously denounce and confront the reactionary and capitulating policies of the government, the PLN, and the PUSC.

OSCAR ARIAS NAMED PLN PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

PA282242 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Oscar Arias Sanchez has been nominated presidential candidate for the Costa Rican PLN. In his first speech as the official PLN candidate, Arias opened the doors to youth and said that today's victory compels us to pledge that we will make Costa Rica the first developed nation in Latin America. He stressed the urgent need to create more employment and improve Costa Ricans' standard of living. He pledged to accept fraternally all those who helped Carlos Manuel Castillo with loyalty and generosity. He proposed a debate with Calderon [Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier, presidential candidate for the Social Christian Unity Party] on their government platforms.

The fundamental economic task is to create sources of work for youth, Arias said at the Irazu Hotel. The main challenge is to eliminate the poverty which many Costa Ricans endure. Politically, he will contribute to strengthening democracy, that is decentralizing power. In foreign policy, my main duty is to preserve peace for Costa Ricans, the candidate said. Calderon's faction is a minority force, Arias stressed. He stated that [words indistinct] division in the PLN.

Oscar Arias Sanchez was nominated PLN presidential candidate by a wide margin of votes at the green and white's convention at the Irazu Hotel yesterday.

BRIEFS

AGREEMENT WITH SPAIN -- San Jose, 26 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- The first meeting of the Spanish-Costa Rican joint committee that began in San Jose on 22 January ended yesterday with the signing of an agreement to increase cultural cooperation between Spain and Costa Rica. The agreement was signed by Costa Rican Deputy Culture Minister Marta Picado Ramirez and Spanish Ambassador Gonzalo Fernandez de Cordoba. The two delegations agreed to increase the exchange of scholarships, invitations, information, and publications through diplomatic channels. [Excerpt] [Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1400 GMT 26 Jan 85 PA]

EL SALVADOR

ANEP SEES SANDINISTS AS THREAT TO REGION

PA270052 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 24 Jan 85 pp 2, 26

[Communique issued by the National Association of Private Enterprise, ANEP, in San Salvador; date not given]

[Text] Regarding the implications for Central America of the Nicaragua situation stemming from the Sandinist regime, which from the onset identified itself as Marxist-Leninist, ANEP states the following:

1. On several occasions it has been acknowledged that from the moment the Sandinists took over power after ousting President Anastasio Somoza with the aid and pressure of foreign countries, the Sandinist communists have become a focus of destabilization of neighboring countries by trying to export their revolution.

2. El Salvador has become the Managua regime's number one objective, thanks to the aid coming primarily from Cuba and the Soviet Union, which have supplied huge amounts of weapons not only to reinforce the Sandinists, but also to supply the FMLN guerrillas, who have spent the past 5 years causing untold bloodshed, suffering, and grief to the Salvadoran people, as well as causing great damage to the country's infrastructure and the people's means of work.

3. The consensus in the Central American region is that so long as the Sandinist communists remain in Nicaragua, the region will remain a permanent focus of subversion and political unrest that will threaten neighboring countries.

4. The legitimation of the Sandinist Marxist regime, through fixed elections which confirmed Commander Daniel Ortega as Nicaragua's president, has heightened concern in the Central American region. This is particularly so because once the elections securing the Sandinists' power were completed, an internal and external campaign to discredit and combat the so-called "contras," who have been striving to liberate Nicaragua from Sandinist subservience to the Soviet orbit, has been unleashed.

5. The Salvadoran people are watching apprehensively the Sandinist communists' consolidation of power, because the people are afraid, and with good reason, that once the Sandinists fix things at home, they will step up their supplies of weapons and mercenaries to the FMLN, with which the latter will intensify its attacks which lead to deaths and destruction in our country. We have seen that ambushes and attacks on Salvadoran Army troops have increased in recent days, and the destruction of vital means of communication, such as the bridge over the Torola River which is not classified as a military target, has begun again.

6. To conclude, the free world has been pleased by the inauguration of President Reagan for his second term in office in the United States, because it sees Reagan as a legitimate leader of the cause for world freedom. The Latin American peoples have their eyes fixed on this leader, hoping that Reagan will not yield to Soviet expansionist attacks and will prevent, at all costs, new territories in our America, the promised land, ending up enslaved by international communism.

HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS CONDEMN USE OF C-47 PLANE

PA261649 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 23 Jan 85 p 12

[Advertisement issued by Salvadoran human rights groups, dated 19 January]

[Text] From the beginning of the armed conflict in El Salvador, we have protested the U.S. Government's intervention in our country which has been going on for 6 years. We have protested this meddling because we consider it harmful for our people, their sovereignty, and their right to self-determination, which have been trampled upon by the Reagan administration that sends military supplies and personnel to guide and support the Armed Forces in their struggle against the FMLN insurgent forces. However, as a result of the irresponsibility of those who direct and implement that "counterinsurgency" policy, we now have more than 500,000 displaced people who have fled from their hometowns; 60,000 civilians, noncombatants, have been killed; thousands of arrested persons are missing; and hundreds of political prisoners have been unjustly jailed, not to mention the number of crippled, orphans, widows, and so on, and the constant epidemics that afflict us.

Therefore, we confirm that the systematic and alarming U.S. "military aid" to our country is a violation of international agreements since, as we said, it violates our sovereignty and also permits the continuation and intensification of human rights violations.

Within this framework, in August of 1984 U.S. Ambassador Pickering announced that the U.S. Congress had approved the delivery of $70 million in military supplies, including C-47 planes, that, in his own words, would "make the bombings more effective in recovering towns and villages under guerrilla pressure" since these planes can arrive faster, be flown for a longer period of time, and operate at night.

In effect, local newspapers recently reported that the Air Force has already received the C-47. On 11 January, reports confirmed its extermination ability during a clash on the night of 7 January that lasted several hours in La Campana and Buenavista Hills, southeast of San Vicente.

The C-47 plane is a minor variation of the AC-47 plane used by U.S. troops in the Vietnam war. It has three .50-caliber machine guns, night lights, and an image enhancer; can fire 1,500 shots per minute; and can place a bullet in each square inch of a soccer field. Finally, we must mention that it costs $1.5 million.

The human rights organizations in El Salvador are concerned over the introduction into the war scene of a highly sophisticated item as the C-47 plane since, despite what the U.S. and Salvadoran military men may have to say, its utilization in the conflict will result in more victims among the Salvadoran civilian population. We are peaceful humanitarian organizations and know nothing about war tactics. Therefore, in view of the fact that the Reagan administration insists on sending more weapons, which are now more sophisticated, that will result in bloodshed for our people on the battlefields, it is our responsibility to protest President Reagan's dangerous, unlawful, and irresponsible attitude. We protest the delivery of military equipment that, according to the characteristics described, has been used in large-scale conflicts such as the Vietnam war. In their eagerness to achieve a military victory, it is no secret that the presence of U.S. troops in Vietnam resulted in an exorbitant number of victims. Therefore, we fear that the introduction of the C-47 in the Salvadoran war could lead to the Vietnamization of the conflict that would in turn worsen the problems faced by the Salvadoran people who already have enough with the quarrels among political parties, the rapid increase in the cost of living, unemployment, lack of medicines, and so on. It is alarming to see that our basic needs are being neglected while priority is given to the escalation of war. We only have to note that each plane will cost $1.5 million, while many staples were recently transferred to the parallel market. Thus, we ask Mr Duarte who does he serve, the Salvadoran people or Mr Reagan?

Finally, we urge other national and international organizations and humanitarian institutions as well as the church and democratic governments of the world:

1. To show their solidarity with the Salvadoran people who are victims of U.S. aggression through the increase of military equipment and personnel.

2. To urge Duarte's government and the FMLN to continue peace talks as an alternative to finding a solution to the conflict, since the utilization of sophisticated elements only affects the immense majority that has fervently favored peace, justice, and liberty.

San Salvador, 19 January 1985

[Signed] Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero, Committee of Mothers and Relatives of Political Prisoners and Missing and Murdered Persons in El Salvador
Marianela Garcia Villa, Committee of Relatives for Freedom of Political Prisoners and Missing People in El Salvador
Committee of Political Prisoners of El Salvador
Christian Committee for Displaced People
Maria Rivas
Domitila Juarez
Teresa Ayala
Vilma Sanchez
Gloria V. de Rosales

TRAFFIC PARALYZATION LOSSES TOTAL $15 MILLION

PA272139 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 27 Jan 85

[Text] By the time we ended our ban on traffic, we had inflicted losses amounting to millions on the dictatorship's war economy. During the 7 days that we paralyzed all traffic, we inflicted losses on the dictatorship estimated at $15 million in funds that the dictatorship failed to receive from coffee and cotton exports. These losses are also the result of having stopped sugarcane transport in various areas. The Duarte government's war economy has lost an estimated $15 million as the result of this blow. The dictatorship will not be able to use these millions to purchase bombs and ammunition to murder our people.

FMLN CLAIMS TWO TRAINS SABOTAGED IN EAST

PA270236 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 27 Jan 85

[Text] Attention, pay attention to this military report: The FMLN has destroyed the engine of rail convoy in Usulutan Department in the midst of enemy actions. Here is our report: On Friday, 25 January, at 1900, a Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade [BRAZ] guerrilla battalion of the FMLN attacked a train headed toward the eastern sector carrying fuel. This train was derailed, and we destroyed seven cars and badly damaged the train's engine. This happened near the (Norman Guia) farm, Jiquilisco jurisdiction. The derailment, subsequent destruction of seven cars, and serious damage to the engine took place in the midst of a dictatorship operation in Usulutan Department. This sabotage operation against the Duarte's war economy took place amid heavy surveillance by the puppet Army.

Attention: We have received information on another sabotage to rail traffic in the country's eastern sector. Also on 25 January, BRAZ units belonging to the FMLN detonated a bomb under a railroad convoy near [name indistinct], destroying the train's engine. On the [word indistinct] 25 January our guerrilla units, defying all enemy surveillance, sabotaged two trains, one of which was transporting fuel. Statements by military chiefs (Vargas) and Julio Cesar Yanez Lopez were mere propaganda. It was mere propaganda to say that their genocidal battalions had control of that zone in Usulutan Department. (Vargas) and Yanez are now weeping over their defeat, over the destruction of two [word indistinct] engines in Usulutan Department.

The country's rail system in the eastern sector has suffered an overwhelming blow with these two actions that defy (Vargas') and Yanez' troops in Usulutan Department.

Attention, pay close attention: Our sabotage campaign against the Duarte regime's war economy continues. We have been informed that FMLN units destroyed a [word indistinct] transporting fuel to the eastern sector. On 24 January at 1700, a BRAZ guerrilla unit, the (Subcommander Gonzalo Group), ambushed the fuel trucks transporting fuel. This took place near (El Polvon) canton on the Coastal Highway. They blew out the truck's tires [passage indistinct].

Enemy units near the site of the incident advanced toward the barricade and clashed with our unit for 25 minutes. Our guerrilla units withdrew without any difficulty.

GUATEMALA

EXILED PSD LEADER RETURNS, TO REENTER POLITICS

PA280231 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2245 GMT 27 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Guatemala City, 27 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- Mario Solorzano, top leader of the Socialist Democratic Party [PSD] of Guatemala, has returned from exile and announced the reincorporation of the PSD into the country's political life after 6 years of being outlawed. Solorzano, a 46-year-old lawyer, said here that the Guatemalan Socialists will make their contribution "to the success of the country's present process of political opening." Constituent Assembly elections were held in Guatemala on 1 July 1984. Elections for a civilian president will be held after the Assembly drafts a new constitution following 14 years of military rule. Solorzano added that "the PSD will return to a full political life, for which we will begin the process established in the present law governing political organizations." "We are going to make a constructive political opposition, since there can be no democratization without opposition," said Solorzano.

HONDURAS

SUAZO MARKS THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF GOVERNMENT

PA281457 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 0104 GMT 28 Jan 85

["Address to the Nation" by President Roberto Suazo Cordova in Tegucigalpa -- live]

[Excerpts] Dear fellow countrymen: Today is the third anniversary of the inauguration of the constitutional government which I head through the free choice of the Honduran people. That is to say, today we commemorate the third year of participating in the restoration of the democratic system, as a legal and political framework for coexistence in order to achieve the fruits of progress and culture as well as the benefits of political, economic and social development. I feel that this is the right occasion, because I think that to reiterate what I said when I became president on 27 January 1982 will stir up the conscience of the different sectors of our society.

On that day I said, and I reaffirm it today, that the search for the solution to Honduras' complex and severe problems was not a task for a single person, or for a political party or a government; instead, it is a task for all Hondurans. I said that we must keep in mind that my government would not be able to solve all the problems at once. On that memorable occasion, I stated that we were going to start solving those problems, that we were going to work harder, and that we would devote ourselves because all of us must do our share and must make sacrifices for the common good. The 3 years that have gone by since that date have been imbued with indelible republican characteristics and represent an experience on the long and sometimes painful road toward achieving a better destiny, a present-day dignity and a future of personal and collective excellence.

However, there is something that I feel must be highlighted on this third anniversary of the restoration of constitutional government in our country. It is something that cannot be easily forgotten; instead, it represents a lasting testimony that neither open and fickle criticism nor occasional arbitrary questioning can erase. I am referring to the achievements attained during this administration, which are rooted in a sincere political view of what democracy means and must mean for the Honduras of the present and of the future. For that reason, in the government elected by the Honduran people and which led me to the presidency, there is no doubt that a political institutional stability has been maintained. One realizes that in our neighboring countries, in the nations surrounding us, a distressing situation of violence and uncertainty prevails. In this government that belongs to the people and was elected under the Liberal Party banner, we have maintained and reinforced daily an understanding without biases or selfish attitudes between the civilian government, which is the offspring of the people, and the Armed Forces which are also the offspring of the people, in order to fulfill the sacred mission of protecting the democratic system and the republican institutions. This understanding is nothing more than the sharing of ideas and a consensus of causes which are upheld by the shared determination to serve the fatherland at all times that was handed down to us by the fathers of our nation.

In internal matters, we have made and will continue to make all necessary efforts to promote the total well-being of all Hondurans. In foreign matters we have advocated and we will continue to advocate even more firmly a policy of peace, dialogue, negotiation, and cooperation.

A government must be judged by its accomplishments instead of the criticisms and attacks from those who have not been capable of uprightly and selflessly serving Honduras.

The country's foreign policy must be judged by whether our country is at war or at peace, as it is caught in the pressing Central American crisis. When I became president, our country was at the crossroads of regional tensions. However, 3 years have passed and Honduras is enjoying peace at home. Honduras reflects this peace in its determined endeavor for international peace.

However much we may be groundlessly attacked by people who easily serve foreign interests and who are indifferent to, even disdainful of, the nation's interests, the unassailable truth of the matter is that we are at peace and we are striving for peace. This is a success and a fact that cannot be hidden or misrepresented by those that cannot bear the truth. If we were experiencing internal strife or if we were at war, then they could say that my foreign policy has been a failure, and then our fickle and lonely detractors would be right.

There is something I want to emphasize on this occasion. I am deeply convinced that in the last half of our republican life, I will be the first president to legitimately turn over power, born of the people, to a successor who has the same backing from the people, without disrupting the constitutional order. This invites all of us to ponder about it, because it is directly linked to our level of civic maturity to choose our own destiny. For that reason I repeat what I have said on other occasions. The politicians should not meddle in the garrisons, and the military should not meddle in politics. This is the year to direct the electoral process to consolidate the democratic process.

Honduras' political history has had its ups and downs, yet it does not lack a renewed and renovating vision. History tells us that the Honduran Liberal Party has been the banner of just causes and sacrifices as it was persecuted and harassed. It has fought for the rule of law and justice, as well as for the effectiveness of a way of living and government that is politically democratic and with a profound social conscience.

This government was elected by the Honduran Liberal Party, yet it belongs to all Hondurans. Hence, it is understandable that some political foes want to be a part of it and have some power in the civil struggles, yet that cannot be done by gratuitously insulting the president and the government. If they want the outlined goals they had better try to achieve it by their own efforts in order to have some truly popular backing however small it may be. Those who have behaved and are behaving in this manner, acting like pesty critics in the field of politics, lack the ethical credentials to judge my constitutional government, because their shameful past, which opposes everything they falsely claim to defend, is suffocating them in their desperate ambition to recover power denied to them by the Honduran people at the ballot boxes.

Dear countrymen, greetings to all Hondurans on the constitutional government's third anniversary, as we look to the future with our heads held high and with a clear conscience. We must become more aware each day of the meaning of democracy and the responsibility we all must bear to maintain the democratic constitutional government. Democracy within the constitutional framework is expressed in the free exchange of ideas at the political party level, and in the free exchange of ideas at the national level. The in-fighting among political parties is healthy because it eloquently speaks of the free democratic process; it is also neccessary as long as it promotes and reinforces participation and dynamic democracy in terms of rules and procedures and in terms of the ideological concept of political plurality. We are living in a democratic system in the making, and it is our duty, as the government and those governed, to guard and protect it with civic devotion so as to build the future with God's help, and with our faith and hope. Thank you, fellow countrymen.

NICARAGUA

FRENCH DELEGATION DECORATES ORTEGA, DEPARTS

PA282143 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Text] A delegation from the French Senate has decorated Commander Daniel Ortega, president of the Republic, with the gold medal of the French parliament as a maximum show of recognition of that French body for the struggles for democracy, human rights, and peace in the world.

The delegation, which left for France last night, was headed by Jean Francois Pintat, member of the Group of the Union of Republicans and Independents [Groupe de 1'Union des Republicains et des Independants] and the France-Latin America Friendship and Study Group.

During their stay in Nicaragua the senators met with President Daniel Ortega and Commander Carlos Nunez Tellez, president of the National Constituent Assembly.

In a brief statement to members of the local and international press before leaving our country, Senator Pintat described Nicaragua's policy on peace in the region as very positive and expressed support for the member countries of the Contadora Group.

CULTURE MINISTER DECORATED WITH SANDINO ORDER

PA270257 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Jan 85

[Text] Priest and poet Ernesto Cardenal, Nicaraguan culture minister and author of "Hora Cero," ["Zero Hour"], was decorated last night with the Augusto C. Sandino Order in its highest degree, Battle of San Jacinto, by President Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra. During the event held at the Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center in Managua, Vice President Dr Sergio Ramirez, members of the FSLN National Directorate, members of the diplomatic corps, government cabinet members, and special guests were also present.

President Ortega said that Father Cardenal has advanced General Sandino's ideas and inspired FSLN fighters. He has been a vanguard militant and an unselfish worker for the people. Poet Cardenal, whose massive work has spread throughout the world, humbly pledged to be worthy of the order.

Cardenal stressed that he did not deserve to be decorated with this order. Father Cardenal approached the president, who fastened the decoration to Cardenal's chest and praised his untiring efforts to promote culture. The president then embraced Cardenal fraternally. Father Cardenal embraced Commanders Bayardo Arce, Tomas Borge, Victor Tirado, Jaime Wheelock, and Dr Sergio Ramirez.

COMMANDER LUIS CARRION RETURNS FROM BOGOTA

PA281953 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Luis Carrion Cruz, first deputy interior minister, has arrived here from Bogota where he had gone to meet with Brooklyn Rivera, who did not attend the meeting agreed upon on 9 December. He was received by Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado and Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge Martinez, the interior minister. Carrion Cruz said that the fact that Nicaragua attended the meeting shows our country's willingness to continue the talks agreed upon last year.

COMMISSION TO DISCUSS PARTIES' SUMMIT ACCORDS

PA270334 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Jan 85

[Text] The political parties that participated in the 4 November elections have appointed a commission and subcommission to discuss procedures to be used by the plenary commission that will consider the agreements reached during the political parties' summit meeting. According to Luis Sanchez, official of the Nicaraguan Socialist Party and commission member, the commission will determine which agreements have been fulfilled and which are to be incorporated into the constitution.

[Begin recording] This preliminary meeting of the special commission for the implementation of the agreements reached during the political parties' summit meeting was, as expected, to outline procedures for and organize the commission. In addition, a board of directors for the commission was elected. This board is presided over by Deputy Commander Rafael Solis. Mauricio Diaz was chosen as vice president, while Luis Sanchez and Carlos Cuadra were elected secretaries. A subcommission was also created that will draft a specific outline of proposals for the plenary commission. This subcommission is formed by Rogelio Ramirez of the FSLN, Mauricio Diaz of the Popular Social Christian Party, Luis Sanchez of the Socialist Party, and Carlos Cuadra of the People's Action Movement.

The subcommission will meet next Monday to discuss four basic topics that came up at the general discussion held today. First of all, the subcommission will determine which of the summit agreements have been fulfilled, namely those that specifically referred to conditions for participating in the electoral campaign. Also, the subcommission will determine which of the agreements must be incorporated into the constitution, namely, frequency of elections, freedom of expression and thought, and freedom of organization, movement, and so on. In the third place, the subcommission will determine which of the agreements are to be implemented immediately, both of an administrative and executive nature -- the commission will have to recommend the implementation of these agreements to the government's corresponding organs through the Assembly -- and those that must also be fulfilled immediately, but through legislative procedure; for instance, the agreement on the democratization of the social and community organizations that we believe must be governed by a specific regulation.

It was finally determined that it is most important to begin working in earnest on perfecting the application of justice in the revolutionary process, that is, the application of pardons agreed upon at the summit meeting and approved by the now defunct State Council and also the recommendation for the National Assembly to create a permanent commission for protecting human rights. This commission will be permanently in charge of watching over the fulfillment of the human rights. [end recording]

COMMENTARY NOTES REAGAN 'AVERSION TO SANDINISM'

PA262230 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan made his first press statements of his second term yesterday. In these statements, so that no one would doubt his aversion to Sandinism, he reaffirmed his intention to continue attacking us. This is not new. Hiding behind allegedly covert aid, the United States has financed and armed Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries and continues to do so.

If we examine the context in which Reagan confirms his decision to continue financing the counterrevolutionaries, the scenario becomes more tense and dangerous. But this is not all. The United States also withdrew from The Hague international court and the talks in Manzanillo. In other words, it is rejecting civilized methods to resolve conflicts among nations. However, this is not all. The United States hypocritically claims to support the Contadora efforts, but when, after 2 years, these efforts result in a specific proposal for peace in the region, the United States exerts pressure on its Central American allies to object to this proposal and prevent the signing of the document.

But there is even more. When Contadora called for a meeting in mid-February to resolve these objections, artificial obstacles were created to block the attendance of El Salvador, Honduras, and Costa Rica at this meeting. The U.S. aim of preventing any peaceful solution in Central America is clear then, because its political will is to impose a war to bleed our countries.

Meanwhile, the Nicaraguan Government, without giving up its legitimate right to defend its national sovereignty, maintains firm its willingness to find a political and peaceful solution to the existing conflicts.

CONTRAS SUFFER 200 CASUALTIES IN JANUARY

PA272022 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1300 GMT 27 Jan 85

[Text] Yesterday, Commander Javier Cuadra, chief of the Sandinist People's Army 3d Military Region which includes Regions 1 and 6, said the counterrevolutionary forces have suffered approximately 200 casualties in January, as well as the total defeat of their principal plans to sabotage the coffee harvest and seize some important cities.

He added that due to the strength and defensive power of our military, Reagan's champions are more demoralized than ever and the counterrevolutionaries are deserting the ranks of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance and the Nicaraguan Democratic Force daily. He said 3 surrendered yesterday in Wiwili, and 12 surrendered in Nueva Segovia 2 days ago with all of their military equipment.

Cuadra said that the contra objective of preventing the coffee harvest in the north has been unsuccessful. Proof of this is the 8,000 quintals of coffee that have been picked in the most strife-torn area to date. This is equivalent to 30 percent of the planned goal. However, he did not rule out the possibility of not reaching the coffee production goal due to the shortage of labor, transportation, tires, and other factors.

FDN DENIES DESTROYING PYLONS; REPORTS ACTIONS

PA290238 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1408 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 28 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- The opposition Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) today denied having destroyed any electrical pylons connecting Honduras and Nicaragua. Last Tuesday, Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Leon Talavera accused the FDN insurgents in Tegucigalpa of having destroyed two pylons, thus preventing Nicaragua from selling electricity to Honduras.

In a report broadcast on guerrilla station Radio 15 September, the FDN asserted that its commands have not destroyed any pylons, only an electrical plant located in a place known as El Cacao, 11 km from the northern city of Jinotega, in Jinotega Province.

According to the radio station, the FDN is not attacking the pylons, but "what happens is that Nicaragua does not wish to sell any more electricity to Honduras and it is using the alleged destruction of the lines as a pretext."

According to the radio, so far this month, the FDN forces have inflicted 610 casualties on the Sandinist People's Army (EPS). The station added that 466 soldiers died and 144 others were injured in 72 clashes reported this weekend in various parts of central and northern Nicaragua.

Further on, the station asserted that the rebels had also seized 101 AK-47 rifles and 51,700 cartridges for them from the government's forces. The FDN guerrillas laid 16 ambushes against the government's troops and managed to destroy 20 military vehicles and two Soviet T-55 tanks, the rebel station added. In the north, the guerrillas managed to [words indistinct] Army positions that had 105-mm cannons, the station added.

Among the Sandinist casualties, the rebels managed to identify nine officers and noncommissioned officers, including Sergeants Jose Castillo Blanco, Mario Sevilla, Jose Oliva, and Ventura Hernandez. According to the station, Lieutenant Humberto Rodas, another officer known as Commander Dragon, and two others who could not be identified, were also among those who fell.

The rebel station reported that in January, 91 Sandinist troops have joined the rebel forces.

BRIEFS

AGREEMENT WITH FINLAND -- Finland and Nicaragua have signed an agreement. The minutes of this agreement were signed by (Kai Kelenos), director general of (Finnmedia); and Sergio Lacayo, deputy minister for foreign cooperation. The Finnish delegation has been in our country since 20 January. Its members held talks with officials of the Foreign Cooperation Ministry and signed agreements for $12 million in aid to Nicaragua. [Summary] [Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 25 Jan 85 PA]

CZECHOSLOVAK YOUTH DELEGATION -- A delegation of the Czechoslovak Socialist Union of Youth arrived in the country last night to increase their solidarity and cooperation with the 19 July Sandinist Youth. The delegation, headed by Jaroslav Jeneral, chairman of the Czechoslovak Socialist Union of Youth, was received by Carlos Carrion, coordinator of the Sandinist youth movement. [Excerpt] [Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 17 Jan 85 PA]

PCDN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE -- Hugo Mejia, president of the Nicaraguan National Council of Political Parties, CNPP, has reported that the CNPP has approved by a vote of 5 to 2 the composition of the National Executive Committee of the Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua, PCDN, as follows: Eduardo Molina Palacios, coordinator; Rafael Cordova Rivas, deputy coordinator; Clemente Guido, secretary for organization; Gustavo Mendoza Hernandez, finance secretary; Hernaldo Zuniga, secretary for international relations; Daniel Brenes Aguilar, secretary for publicity and press; Alejandro Ortiz Mendez, secretary for youth; Augusto Cesar Castillo Lacayo, secretary for labor and union affairs; Jose Maria Icabalceta Aguinada, secretary for social affairs; Sergio Torres Obregario, secretary for economic affairs; Carlos Sanchez Narvaez, secretary for agrarian affairs; and Gerardo Alfaro Silva, secretary for political formation. Ruperto Lucas Urbina Diaz, Santiago Rivas Haslan, Raul Yanez Ramos, Enrique Sotelo Borgen and Eduardo Yanez Ramos are also members of the Executive Committee, but do not hold specific positions. [Excerpts] [Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 22 Jan 85 p 12 PA]

POPE'S VISIT, LIBERATION THEOLOGY VIEWED

PA272248 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Jan 85

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] Pope John Paul II this Saturday starts his fourth visit to Latin America, a region that has recently undergone some political changes but in which serious economic problems and deep social inequalities still prevail. On this occasion the pontiff has chosen to visit Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru, and Trinidad and Tobago to deliver his apostolic message, exchange views with representatives of the national churches, and receive greetings from believers. As on his previous visits, among the believers include a large number of persons whose standard of living is among the lowest in the world. The Latin America which John Paul II is visiting is home to 43 percent of all Catholics of the world. According to estimates, half the Catholics of the world will live in Latin America by the year 2000. That is why it is necessary to consider that the majority of the Latin American Catholics endure serious economic situations, and that hundreds of thousands of them live in abject poverty. In his last regional visit, to Santo Domingo, Pope John Paul II said the church was aware of the regrettable barriers of ignorance, lack of freedom, injustice, and oppression affecting the suffering Latin American people, who are thirsty for higher spiritual and human dignity. The Latin American man, poor and oppressed, has decided to change the old structures and struggle for his country's welfare and development. That aspiration has received the support of the church, particularly in Peru and Brazil, the birthplace of liberation theology, which was defined by Brazilian priest Leonardo Bos as the effort by Christians, in the light of the Gospel, to eradicate oppressions affecting many men, such as hunger, unemployment, and lack of housing and political participation. According to the Brazilian theologian, a new church is being born which brings together the Gospel and liberation, which not only aspires for a future, eternal life, but also for enjoying life on this earth.

Since liberation theology has emerged, its main promoters, Peruvian priest Gustavo Gutierrez and Brazilian Franciscan priest Leonardo Bos, have been accused by the Catholic Church of being Marxists and subversives. To this, Rev Bos replied that in the face of the church's commitment to the people, only the oppressors and the privileged are receiving the benefits of the present system. It is just, legitimate, and Christian, the Brazilian priest adds, to struggle for liberation, and it is neither just, legitimate, nor Christian to condemn those who strive for their liberation. Thus, at this time it is imperative to analyze the real role the church and its representatives must play. The role already being played by several Latin American priests, together with individuals like those in Nicaragua who hold ranking cabinet posts and participate directly in the process of reconstruction and development, is truly praiseworthy. This Christian work in no way resembles that being carried out by some representatives of the ecclesiastic hierarchy in some Latin American nations, who from ultraconservative positions criticize the representatives of liberation theology, collaborate with oppressing rulers, and contribute to delaying progress.

The current presence of the pope among Latin American Christians has special significance. Many Catholics are expectant and remember the papal message to the Peruvian prelates who visited him in Rome in October last year, when John Paul II said: The more difficult the situation, the more inadmissible are the attitudes of systems inspired by principles of exclusive economic benefits for privileged sectors. The church wants to uphold a preferential option for the poor and encourages the efforts of all those who dedicate themselves to the needy.

U.S. LAUNCHES 'NEW ESCALATION' AGAINST NICARAGUA

PA251728 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 24 Jan 85

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] The U.S. Government has launched a new political, military escalation against the Sandinist revolution whose main objective seemingly closes the paths of dialogue with the Nicaraguan authorities. In fact, this constitutes Washington's explicit rejection of the search for peaceful solutions to the political crisis in Central America.

Recently, the White House almost simultaneously announced its decision to suspend its dialogue with Nicaragua in the Mexican region of Manzanillo and its withdrawal from the deliberations at The Hague International Court of Justice on a charge leveled by Nicaragua against the United States.

On 9 April 1984, Nicaragua accused the U.S. Government of attempting to destroy the Sandinist revolution by force by mining Nicaraguan ports and supporting counterrevolutionary groups. These latest decisions by the United States were based on political maneuvers promoted by Washington so that the regimes of El Salvador and Honduras would reject the Document for Peace and Cooperation for Central America presented late last year by the Contadora Group. The document had been accepted in its entirety by Nicaragua. However, the Salvadoran and Honduran authorities, prodded by the United States, presented a list of proposed additions totaling approximately 90 pages. The path to peace, which the four Contadora Group countries have patiently tried to find, was therefore delayed. Thus far that group has not been able to draft a new text that harmonizes the positions of the interested countries, raising the risk that the peace-keeping efforts of Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and Panama may receive a mortal blow.

Washington's decision not to continue the Manzanillo talks with Nicaragua also shows a hardening of the U.S. policy of pressure that is intent on getting Congress to approve new funds for the counterrevolutionary groups operating against the Sandinist revolution from Honduras and Costa Rica. In regard to this, Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega termed the White House attitude an action designed to strengthen its policy of force on the pretext that peace is impossible. In the Nicaraguan Government's opinion, Manzanillo signified the possibility of an understanding between the two countries. To suspend the talks is tantamount to closing the path to a negotiated solution to the regional conflicts and exposing them to a course of unforeseeable consequences. At the same time, the U.S. attitude to disavow The Hague International Court of Justice is the government's official refusal to abide by the rules of international law in its relations with other sovereign states. On the one hand, this stand is a blow against the international legal order; on the other, it evidences the United States' fear of being sanctioned by the top organization of world justice.

After the latest political stand by the United States in Central America, the U.S. State Department declared that the conflict in the area can be solved only through diplomatic means. The media indicates that such untenable statements can only reflect Washington's contempt for peaceful coexistence among the nations. At a time when the United States has broken all the paths of political and diplomatic dialogue and is militarily preparing to launch a new escalation in the area, the first steps of which have been taken with the dispatch to the region of a powerful war fleet headed by the nuclear aircraft carrier Nimitz, we cannot see it in any other way.

LAWYERS HOLD SEMINAR ON 'YANKEE AGGRESSION'

FL190230 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] To study different imperialist aggressions against our country in different areas and to show how the policy of force has damaged the U.S. foreign image is the objective of the seminar Yankee Aggression Against Cuba, which began today at the National Union of Cuban Lawyers headquarters. The opening remarks were made by Pelegrin Torras, vice minister of foreign relations.

CEREMONY MARKS SOLIDARITY WITH SALVADORANS

FL251424 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Text] Julio Camacho Aguilera, member of the Politburo, has presided over the main ceremony in Havana of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions for solidarity with the struggle of the Salvadoran people. Santiago Rivas, of the FMLN-FDR International Solidarity Committee, spoke at the ceremony. He said the revolutionary exploits of his people date from the 19th century and culminate with the struggle against the United States and the local oligarchy.

AUSTRALIAN-NEW ZEALAND BRIGADE ENDS VISIT

FL281932 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1330 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Excerpt] The second contingent of the Australian-New Zealand brigade has ended its visit to Cuba with a festive event at which it expressed its support for the Cuban revolution. During their stay here, the brigade members worked by picking oranges in Havana Province and visited several places of historic and tourist interest. Their last activity in Cuba was to attend a typical Australian-New Zealand party.

5-YEAR SCIENTIFIC AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH USSR

FL251530 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Text] The scientific-technical cooperation plan between the scientific academies of the Soviet Union and Cuba for the next 5-year period has been signed aboard the Cuban Revolutionary Navy ship (Tucspan) off the coast of Havana.

The document was signed by Yuriy Ovchinnikov, alternate member of the CPSU Central Committee and vice president of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, and Ismael Clark, vice president of the Cuban Academy of Sciences. Clark stressed the importance of the scientific-technical exchange program planned for the upcoming 5-year period and referred to the privilege of having as a guest Comrade Ovchinnikov, who is known throughout the world for his contributions to chemistry and biology.

The Cuban official said the cooperation plan deals with all subjects of interest in the basic contemporary sciences.

STRIKE, DISTURBANCES REPORTED THROUGHOUT COUNTRY

FL281912 Santo Domingo Radio Comercial Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Text] Violent incidents took place in various towns in the interior of the country as part of a continuation of protests against economic adjustment measures announced last week by President Salvador Jorge Blanco.

From Barahona we received a report that tires were set on fire in various streets of the city, and that leftist leader Julio (Pratt) had been arrested. Correspondent Manuel Livi reported that Barahona city is totally militarized. More than 30 youths were arrested in El Coquito following the explosion of homemade bombs.

Ramon Virgilio Regalado, reporter for "Noti-Tiempo," has reported that the situation is extremely tense in the Sanchez Ramirez Province, and that police and military patrols are continuing.

Likewise, in Moca, Nagua, and Rio San Juan numerous tires were set on fire and traffic was blocked with large tree trunks. Correspondent Enrique Vargas indicated that patrols on foot and in vehicles are being conducted by police and military personnel in the previously mentioned municipalities.

Similar protest demonstrations were reported in La Vega and Villa Vasquez, where dozens of tires were set on fire in the streets. Correspondents Pascual Gregorio Hernandez and Humberto Morales Tellez reported that the situation in those towns is extremely tense.

In (Los Alta Rizos), a suburb of Santiago, commerce and traffic are paralyzed in protest of the government's economic measures. Correspondents Lucrecio Polanco and Leonico Bautista reported that the police and military patrols have been redoubled. The strike in (Los Alta Rizos) is organized by the community's people's struggle committee.

Also, on the road to Cibao all vehicles are stopped and thoroughly searched.

Hundreds Arrested

FL291226 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Security forces in the Dominican Republic arrested hundreds of Dominicans yesterday as they protested a recent wave of price increases.

Activity was paralyzed in poor neighborhoods in the northern part of the capital of Santo Domingo as businesses closed their doors in response to a strike called by the so-called Committees for the Popular Struggle.

Protesters threw garbage in the streets and burned tires while two military helicopters flew overhead and directed ground forces to centers of unrest.

News reports say Army and special police units arrested hundreds of demonstrators. There were reports of similar demonstrations in at least four other cities. In Santiago, the country's second largest city, news reports said police arrested more than 50 people: there were no injuries reported.

Meanwhile, the Dominican Republic Government has banned live reporting on the protest, and police briefly detained eight journalists yesterday.

GRENADA

GAIRY DENIES RUMORS OF RUNNING IN BY-ELECTION

FL281930 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Text] In Grenada, Sir Eric Gairy, former prime minister and leader of the Grenada United Labor Party, has denied rumors that he plans to contest the only parliamentary seat won by his party in the December 3d elections. Marcel Peters, who won the seat in the rural constituency of St Andrew's Northeast, resigned immediately after the elections, claiming they had been rigged by the New National Party of Prime Minister Herbert Blaize, which won 14 of the 15 parliamentary seats. Mr Gairy, who did not run in the elections, has recently been seen in St Andrews and that has fueled rumors that he plans to contest the seat in a by-election. However, Mr Gairy calls the rumors stupid and ridiculous.

JAMAICA

SHEARER SAYS ECONOMIC PRODUCTIVITY WILL CONTINUE

FL251736 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Text] Jamaica's Deputy Prime Minister Hugh Shearer has assured foreign businessmen that his country's economy will continue to be productive. He opened a seminar on the U.S. Caribbean Basin Initiative conducted by the United States Department of Commerce in Kingston. He told the gathering that the demonstrations last week in Jamaica over fuel price increases would not prevent Jamaicans from producing goods and services. He also said that visits by three large U.S. department store concerns to Jamaica and a mission for trade to New Orleans, Louisiana, would be among the incentives to expansion for Jamaica. Business leaders from other Caribbean countries are attending the seminars.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

120,000 TONS OF UREA TO BE SOLD TO INDIA

FL252316 Bridgetown CANA in English 1837 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Jan 25, CANA -- Trinidad and Tobago has landed a major contract to supply 120,000 tonnes of urea, worth TT60 million dollars (one TT dollar: 37 cents U.S.), to India this year, a release from the National Energy Corporation (NEC) said. The order, placed by state-owned Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation (MMIC) of New Delhi, is the largest received by the NEC from a single customer since the urea plant began production in mid-1984. According to the release, the first shipment is expected to leave here in the last week of February. It also indicated that there is a promise of further sales over the next few years. Future contracts are subject to government-to-government agreements which will include joint ventures and the purchase of products from India by this country, the release said. This sale is the second to a foreign government. Last December, 40 tonnes of urea were delivered to China. The release hailed the sale as an important breakthrough in the corporation's marketing effort because India is second only to China in the size of its urea import market. NEC is very optimistic about its latest association with India since the NEC is confident [words indistinct] percentage of India's urea imports. India's demand for urea has increased at an annual rate of 13.5 per cent over the last 10 years from 1.5 million to 3.28 million tonnes per annum. At present, the country imports some 1.5 million tonnes of urea a year and will continue to need to do so, the chairman of the MMTC was quoted as saying in the release.